



# News Release

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For immediate release:  
Feb. 17, 2015

## **Chief Justice Forms Committee on Domestic Violence**

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner has formed a committee to examine issues related to domestic violence cases in the New Jersey court system.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Domestic Violence will bring together representatives from all three branches of government to consider the issue of domestic violence from multiple perspectives and make recommendations to improve the current system.

Chief Justice Rabner said, “The committee will serve as a forum for stakeholders to conduct an in-depth review of our current domestic violence laws and policies, including the interaction of the Municipal and Superior Courts in domestic violence matters, the level and degree of domestic violence offenses, resources available to victims of domestic violence, and education and training opportunities available for all stakeholders. I welcome a report on the committee’s findings and potential recommendations.”

Assignment Judge Georgia M. Curio of the Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Vicinage will serve as chair of the committee. The full committee roster is attached.

# # #

# **New Jersey Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee on Domestic Violence**

**Hon. Georgia M. Curio, Chair**

Assignment Judge  
Gloucester/Cumberland/Salem Vicinage

**Senator Diane B. Allen**

**Jose I. Bastarrika, Esq.**

Bastarrika, Soto, Gonzalez & Somohano, LLP

**Prosecutor Joseph D. Coronato**

Ocean County Prosecutor's Office

**Laurence J. Cutler, Esq.**

(representative of the American  
Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers – NJ)  
Laufer Dalena Cadicina Jensen & Boyd, LLC

**Amy K. DePaul, Esq., Trial Court Administrator**

Essex Vicinage

**Joanne M. Dietrich, Esq.**

Assistant Director, Family Practice Division  
Administrative Office of the Courts

**Paris Eliades, Esq., President**

New Jersey State Bar Association

**Hon. Marlene Lynch Ford, J.S.C.**

Burlington Vicinage

**Hon. Greta Gooden Brown, P.J.S.C.**

Passaic Vicinage

**Ryan Goodwin, Esq., Assistant Counsel**

Office of Legal Counsel to the Governor

**Monica Gural, Esq.**

Supervising Attorney  
Legal Services of New Jersey

**Joseph A. Levin, Esq.**

Law Offices of Joseph A. Levin, LLC

**Jessica Lyons, Esq., Deputy Public Defender**

(designee of Public Defender Joseph E. Krakora)

**Hon. Julio L. Mendez, A.J.S.C.**

Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage

**Assemblywoman Nancy F. Munoz**

**Norma Murgado, Esq.**

Chief Municipal Prosecutor, City of Elizabeth

**Hon. Thomas M. North, P.J.M.C.**

Gloucester/Cumberland/Salem Vicinage

**Penny Paparteys, Advocate Supervisor**

Providence House

**Jane Baldwin Shivas, Executive Director**

New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women

**Assemblyman Troy Singleton**

**Jennifer Stonerod, Esq., Deputy Attorney General**

(designee of Acting Attorney General John J. Hoffman)

**Senator Loretta Weinberg**

**Charles W. Wigginton, Esq.**

Municipal Public Defender, Collingswood Municipal Court

**Staff to the Committee:**

**Amelia Wachter-Smith, Chief**

Family Practice Division, AOC

**Steven Somogyi, Chief**

Municipal Court Services, AOC